

CAE Newsletter

Issue 1, Fall 2014



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DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AND ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING NEWSLETTER

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The 4th Qatar BIM User Day

The Fourth “BIM User Day” was a non-profit series event covering various aspects of Building Information Modeling (BIM). It took place at Qatar University (QU) on February 24, 2014.

Following the success of the earlier three BIM User Days since 2012, the organizing partnership of the Department of Civil and Architectural Engineering and HOCHTIEF ViCon, in collaboration with Teeside University, UK, was well on the way to advancing an important platform for BIM knowledge transfer in Qatar and the Middle East with the organizing of the 4th BIM User Day.



High School Wooden Bridge Competition 2014

This competition was organized to promote “Engineering” in general, and “Civil Engineering”, in particular, to high school students in Qatar. This competition gave high school students an opportunity to use their imagination and creativity in designing small scale wooden bridges.



The competition took place on April 10, 2014, at the Qatar University's Ibn Khaldoun Hall. Twenty seven schools participated in this event. The awarding ceremony for the five winning teams took place on May 22, 2014.



Civil Engineering Social Day

This event was organized to give an opportunity for the students, faculty, and the staff to meet and exchange their traditional dishes. The event took place on Monday, April 10, 2014.



Ashghal Day

The event aimed to attract engineering students in general & civil engineering students in particular to employment and training opportunities with Ashghal. It was an opportunity for the students at Qatar University to know about future projects being executed by Ashghal. The event took place on March 17, 2014.



Civil Engineering Students Achievements in GCC Design Competition

Congratulations to the students Mazen Elamin and Mohammad Alsoub for winning the 2nd place in the GCC Design Competition that was held on April 23, 2014. The graduation project was supervised by Dr. Onur Avci & Prof. Hisham Eid. A total of 47 projects participated in this competition from different engineering colleges in the Gulf Region.



Site Visits

Civil Engineering students visited the Lusail Multipurpose Hall Project on December 2013. The visit gave the students the opportunity to experience the real work progress occurring on the site and to link their class studies with the field work.



Civil Engineering students visited the Golf Course being constructed at Education City on May 3, 2014. The visit was organized by Dr. Houssam Tlemet to give the students the opportunity to link theoretical knowledge with the works being executed on site.



Guest Speakers

- Professor Khalid Alshibli, Coordinator of Geotechnical and Materials Group, in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of Tennessee-Knoxville (UTK), USA on April 7, 2014 presented a lecture entitled "Mechanics of Granular Materials at Low Effective Stresses."

- Eng. Christopher Stanley, Technical Director of Unibeton Ready-mix, on March 12, 2014 presented a seminar on “Sustainable Concrete Construction.”



CAE Annual Retreat

Faculty members, TAs, and staff had a retreat on June 24, 2014 to review the current state of affairs of the department, and to formulate the departmental plan for the next two years.



Newly Approved NPRP Projects

NPRP: National Priorities Research Program-7th Cycle-(2014-2015)

The National Priorities Research Program (NPRP) is the flagship state funding program of the Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF). It is held annually to fund



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successful proposals and is intended to support the overreaching goal of the QNRF which is to foster research culture in Qatar. For this year, the CAE Department was awarded three research grants. The Three awarded projects totaled about US\$ 2.7 million over a period of three years.

Project number: NPRP 7-089-2-044

Project title: Recovery and Reuse of Municipal and Industrial Wastewater: Development of a novel fouling suppression system in submerged membrane bioreactors using dielectrophoretic forces

LPI: Dr. Alaa Al-Hawari

Project number: NPRP 7-1720-2-641

Project title: Strengthening of corrosion-damaged concrete flexural members with textile-reinforced mortars

LPI: Dr. Usama Ebead

Project number: NPRP 7-110-2-056

Project title: Toward designing quieter pavements

LPI: Dr. Okan Sirin

UREP: Undergraduate Research Experience Program

The Undergraduate Research Experience Program (UREP) is an initiative of Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF) that aims to stimulate undergraduate research opportunities in Qatar by funding student-driven and student-conducted research projects on topics of relevance to Qatar's national development strategy. For this year, the CAE department was awarded three research grants from QNRF under its UREP 15th cycle.

Project number: UREP 15-085-3-020

Project title: Promoting Healthy Communities through Improving Doha's Residential Neighborhoods

Primary faculty: Dr. Khaled Salah Shabaan, and Dr. Yasser Mahgoub

Students: Elshimaa Alktiar, Farah Alkhasib, Lolwa AlKhaldi, Mahnoor Hasan, Sara Awouda, Shaden Alriyabi

Project number: UREP 15-065-3-016

Project title: Preventing Cell Phone Use Among University Students

Primary faculty: Dr. Khaled Salah Shabaan

Students: Mariam Shurbaji, Rana Wadi, Salman Badnava

Project number: UREP 15-047-2-015

Project title: Modeling of Sand Filters Using Artificial Neural Networks (ANN)

Primary faculty: Dr. Alaa Al-Hawari, and Dr. Wael Al Nahal

Students: Abdulaziz Al-Qahoumi, Abdulrahman Abushanab, Ahmed Shalaby, Mohammed Abu Anzeh, Rashid Al-Zeyara, Walid Al-Hassan

New Academic Staff

Dr. Wael AlNahaal joined the department in Fall 2013. He got his Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from State University of New York- University at Buffalo in 2007. His research interests include structural engineering; application of advanced composite materials (FRP) in the infrastructure and upgrading deteriorating structures; computational mechanics; finite element analysis; floor vibrations serviceability; and earthquake engineering.



Dr. Usama Ebead joined the department in Fall 2013. He obtained his Ph.D. in structural engineering from Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada. His research interests include large-scale experimental testing and instrumentation; rehabilitation of reinforced concrete structures using advanced and traditional materials; and Fiber reinforced polymer composites in civil engineering applications.



Dr. Murat Gunduz joined the Department in Fall 2014. He obtained his Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from the University of Wisconsin, Madison in 2002. His research interests include construction engineering and management; construction productivity measurement and improvement; construction health and safety; and data collection and analysis.



Dr. Mohamed Hussein joined the Department in Fall 2014. He obtained his Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from the University of Cambridge, UK in 2005. His research interests include railway dynamics and ground-borne vibration from rail and road systems; structural health monitoring and characterization of damage by using vibration data.



Dr. Mohammad Ghanim joined the Department in Fall 2014. He obtained his Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from Michigan State University in 2008. His research interests include traffic operations and optimization; public transportation; transportation network modeling; intelligent transportation systems, transportation planning.



Eng. Nasser Al-Nohmi joined the Department as a teaching assistant in Fall 2013. Eng. Nasser Al-Nohmi's areas of interest include the analysis and design of structures.



Eng. Khaled Rabie joined the Department a teaching assistant in Fall 2014. Eng. Khaled Rabie areas of interest include geotechnical engineering focusing on slope stability; landslides; and soil shear strength.



Congratulations

Dr. Ahmed Senouci was promoted to the rank of Professor in Spring 2014. However, he resigned in August 2014. We would like to express our gratitude and thanks to Dr. Ahmed for his hard work and contributions to the department during his 19 years of service.



Civil Engineering Alumni

The department is interested in hearing about your news. Please e-mail us at civil@qu.edu.qa with your position, employer, office and mobile phone numbers, E-mail, and any of your good news that you would like to share with us.